(e) whether Government propose to take some steps in consultation with all concerned to check them in future: and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. This Ministry had organised a training workshop on implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) from 20-24th February, 1995 at New Delhi. The Workshop was arranged in collaboration with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and CITES Secretariat The Workshop was aimed at providing training and orientation in CITES implementation and techniques to all major enforcement authorities within the country such as Customs, Wildlife, Coast Guards, Police, BSF, ITBP and Scientific Authorities such as BSI, ZSI, CMFRI and the Wildlife Institute of India.

(c) and (d) At present 128 countries including developed and developing countries are Parties to the CITES which regulates International Trade in Endangered Species, Besides, these countries also have their own internal laws and regulations to protect wildlife species.

(e) and (f) The Government is already taking various steps in collaboration with the Member Countries of CITES to control and regulate international trade in endangered species under the provisions of the said Convention This Ministry is also taking help of all enforcing organisations in the country to implement the provisions of national legislations and international conventions.

प्रदूषण को रोकथाम में लगे स्वयंसेवी संगठनों का वित्तीय सहायता

1288. **श्री इकबाल सिंह :** क्या **पर्यावरण और वन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार ने प्रदूषण की रोकथाम हेतु देश के विभिन्न स्वयंसेवी संगठनों को वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करने के लिये कोई योजना शुरू की है : और

(ख) यदि हां, तो देश में, विशेषकर पंजाब में ऐसे कुल कितने स्वयंसेवी संगठन हैं और पिछले दो वर्षों के दौरान उनमें से कितने स्वयंसेवी संगठनों को कितनी-कितनी वित्तीय सहायता दी गई है ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ): (क) प्रदूषण की रोकथाम के लिये स्वैच्छिक संगठनों को वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करने की कोई विशिष्ट स्कीम आरम्भ नहीं की गई है। तथापि, पर्यावरणीय जागरूकता, राष्ट्रीय वनीकरण, पारि-पुनर्जनन, गंगा परियोजना निदेशालय के विभिन्न कार्यक्रमों के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न संगठनों को चुनिंदा गतिविधियों के लिये वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान की जाती है।

(ख) वित्तीय वर्ष 1993-94 और 1994-95 के दौरान 2000 से अधिक स्वैच्छिक संगठनों को 5.23 करोड़ रुपये की वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान की गई है। इस अवधि के दौरान पंजाब में 67 ऐसे संगठनों को 3.86 लाख रुपये की राशि प्रदान की गई है।

Indo-Iran joint Commission

1289. **SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a maritime agreement was signed at the Eighth meeting of the Indo-Iran Joint Commission;

(b) if so, what are the details of the agreement; and

(c) what other subjects came up for discussion at the meeting and the conclusions reached thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATA): (a) and (b) A bilateral agreement on Maritime Commercial Navigation was signed between India and Iran, during the Eight Session of the India Iran Joint Commission in New Delhi on January 3, 1995.

The agreement envisages cooperation and mutual assistance between India and Iran for the development of maritime commercial navigation and providing special facilities in respect of transit traffic of the two countries in the form of berthing of vessels, allocation of warehousing facilities, etc. apart from facilitating measures to avoid unnecessary delays in their ports.

(c) The Joint Commission meeting reviewed the range of issues in the bilateral cooperation in the fields of trade, industry, agriculture, transport and communications, energy, science and technology, cultural and consular matters. The progress of implementation of decisions taken at the Seventh India-Iran Joint Commission meeting was reviewed and modalities for speedier implementation of decisions were worked out. The Joint Commission meeting identified certain specific areas for the setting up of joint ventures such as agricultural machinery, pharmaceuticals, textiles, machine tools, auto parts, passenger cars, leather, etc. The meeting discussed ways and means of expanding cooperation in the field of research, training and engineering activities apart from reviewing the on-going negotiations relating to projects in Iran, exchanging views on the issues of bilateral trade including proposals for trade promotions in the coming period, as well identifying technical cooperation programmes between the two countries in the different fields. The Joint Commission decided that negotiations may commence on the finalisation of an agreement relating to transit trade between India, Iran, and Central Asian Republics at the earliest possible.

Pakistani premiers belligerent Statement of Kashmir

1290. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention had been drawn to a statement made by Pakistan's Prime Minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, during an interview published in the Al Wasaat, a London based publication, that a third war between Pakistan and India could break out if the Kashmiris are indefinitely denied their right to self-determination;

(b) if so, what is Government's independent information in this regard; and

(c) what is Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Government have seen the media reports.

(b) and (c) Pakistan has been making contradictory statements on the Security climate in the sub-continent, for its propagandistic purposes from time to time. Government are of the firm view that war or threats of war are not the means of resolving differences. The Simla Agreement provides the framework for the settlement of all differences between the two countries peacefully and through bilateral negotiations. Government could urge Pakistan to eschew its negative approach.